

BULLETIN NOTICES

From:	Mr Jude Hennessy	Ref:	JH/hb:2026/22
Phone:	4222 2403	Email:	Helen.bennett@dow.org.au
Date:	21 September 2026	For weekend:	26 – 27 September 2026

RSVP details are essential for adequate catering, seating, handouts etc. We ask that details are kept in notices where included.

Status	Bulletin notice	Attachment(s)
NEW	What's on around the Diocese? Check out upcoming Diocesan events and courses - too many to list in one place. Subscribe here and we will keep you in the loop dow.sh/stayingconnected about what's happening around our Diocese!	
Continuing	Jubilee of St Francis Warrawong and Thirroul parishes warmly welcome pilgrimage groups to visit them during the Jubilee Year of St Francis. A plenary indulgence is available, under the usual conditions, to all the faithful "who, with a heart detached from sin, participate in the Year of Saint Francis by visiting, in the form of a pilgrimage, any Franciscan conventual church or place of worship anywhere in the world dedicated to Saint Francis" (Decree, 10 January 2026). Both parishes will be celebrating the Feast of St Francis with special Mass on Sunday 4 October 2026 . Please contact the parish/es to arrange a time for your group's visit.	
NEW	Survey of Catholic Couples The Australian Catholic Bishops want to hear about the experience of Catholics in their first 10 years of marriage. The information gathered will help inform the development of pastoral responses and resources for this vital stage of married life. Any couple married in the last 10 years, where at least one spouse is Catholic, can contribute their valuable insights via https://thepmrc.org/survey . All answers are anonymous and confidential, and participants can contact the researchers directly with any questions via the survey link. Your contributions would be highly valued.	

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NEW	St Francis of Assisi Jubilee – Three Presentations – October 2026 As part of the Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi, the Parish of St Michael, Thirroul, is hosting three presentations exploring the life, spirituality and legacy of Saint Francis on October 8, 15 & 22, 7.30pm-9pm. Presented Franciscan Friars — Andrew Granc OFM, Paul Rout OFM and Ken Cafe OFM — the evenings will offer an opportunity to reflect more deeply on the Franciscan tradition and its relevance for our lives today. The presentations will be held live at St Michael's Parish Hall, Thirroul, but you can also participate via Zoom. For full details, including presentation topics, dates and Zoom information, please go dow.sh/sfjform or click here.	
Continuing	Marriage Enrichment Weekend We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on 9 – 11 October 2026 at a Marriage Encounter Weekend at Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville – a stunning & tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney. Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au	
NEW	SANCTUS- Rosemeadow Join us for Sanctus Summit at Our Lady Help of Christians, Rosemeadow on Wednesday 14 October 2026 starting at 6.30pm. Sanctus Summit is a monthly adoration night, bringing together young adults from different parts of the Diocese! Eucharistic Adoration from 6.30 - 7.30pm (Reconciliation will be available), followed by dinner at Ambarvale Hotel. Come along to pray before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and connect with other young people from the area!	
NEW	BEACHHOUSE – A Post-School Getaway for Year 12 Graduates Finishing Year 12 can bring big changes. BEACHHOUSE is a relaxed three-day beach house experience helping school leavers build faith, friendship and community as they begin life beyond school.  Jesuit Villa House, Gerroa  16–18 February 2027  \$275 (includes accommodation & meals)  Year 12 graduates  Only 20 places available A chance to slow down, connect with other young Catholics and start the next chapter well. More details & registration: dow.sh/beachhouse	

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NEW	Understanding the Billings Ovulation Method® The Billings Ovulation Method® helps couples understand the natural signs of fertility and infertility. Through this knowledge, couples can plan their families in a way that is fully consistent with Catholic teaching—whether to achieve or to postpone pregnancy. This natural method encourages deeper communication and mutual respect within marriage, while supporting reproductive health through a simple, science-based approach that honours God’s design. For more information or to connect with a trained teacher, please contact: Liz Gandy 0457 298 823 or visit lizgandynaturopathy.au	
Continuing	Compass Catholic Family Camping Weekend Registrations are now open for our next Weekend planned for Friday 16 - Sunday 18 October. Join with families from across the Diocese for a relaxed weekend of family fun, faith and food! For more information and to register go to: dow.sh/familycamping26	
Continuing	The Journey – Your Diocesan Weekly Podcast The Journey is the weekly podcast for parishioners in the Diocese of Wollongong. Each week it brings you great music, formation in faith, with an array of fantastic presenters from our Diocese and around Australia. Just go to www.jcr.org.au and we will send it to you each week.	www.jcr.org.au
NEW	A Vocation View “Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths.” The paths of the Lord lead to eternal life, if we but have the courage to walk where He leads. (Psalm 25:4) If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au	

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Continuing	Blessing of the Animals, Monday, 5 October at 9:30am As usual, the Blessing of Animals will take place on the Monday of the long weekend, 5 October at 9:30am at the Parish of Saint Michael, 325 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Thirroul. The blessing takes place in the courtyard next to the church. All animals under 800kg and their carers are welcome, though please keep the larger crocodiles on a tight leash. The feast of St Francis of Assisi is celebrated with special Masses on Saturday, 3 October at 5:30pm and on Sunday, 4 October, at 8:00am – pets are welcome at both Masses. <i>Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.</i>	
REGISTER NOW	FAITH & FRIES – CAMPBELLTOWN Wednesday 14 October Calling all high school students! Faith & Fries is a relaxed afternoon that is all about good food, real questions and honest conversations Details: <i>Time: 4:30pm–6:30pm</i> <i>Where: Grill'd Macarthur Square, 200 Gilchrist Street Dr</i> <i>Topic: How to date with purpose & meaning</i> <i>Guest Speaker: Simon Carrington</i> <i>What happens: \$15 burgers & fries, talk, live Q&A and good vibes</i> Register by 5 October to go into the draw to win Sony Noise Cancelling Headphones and a \$100 Grill'd voucher! Register: dow.sh/fries	
Continuing	Vocaris Youth October 2026 Do you have a high school-aged young person who you would love to see grow in their faith, discover the beauty of the Catholic faith and make like-minded friends? Then they won't want to miss VOCARIS Youth - a free, fun and faith-filled day for students in Years 7-12 on Saturday, 31 October, 10:00am-3:00pm at Wilton Community Centre, featuring a Cookie Station, Sausage Sizzle Lunch and Ice Cream Topping Bar! For more information or to register, visit https://dow.sh/VocarisYouth or scan the QR code.	

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Continuing	Eucharist28 Update – Walking with Christ The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 ('Eucharist28') will be a global gathering of the Church centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives. It will be a celebration of faith, rich with worship, prayer, testimonies, art, music, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. It will be an important moment of Eucharistic renewal for the Church in Australia and beyond. The journey to Eucharist28 has begun! Our lives this side of heaven are a continuous journey of walking with Christ. We are called to walk alongside Him during our trials and our triumphs. In Micah 6:8, scripture tells us, "And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." This journey of walking with Christ is interior, but it can also be expressed physically. We can become pilgrims by walking and prayerfully moving with Him, including through processions. In 2028, the global church that gathers in Sydney for Eucharist28 will have an opportunity to be pilgrims by participating in the Eucharistic Procession. This journey through the streets of Sydney will be a witness to our nation and our world, as tens of thousands of pilgrims walk alongside Jesus Christ, truly present in the Eucharist. In the years leading up to this moment and beyond, the prayer of Eucharist28 is that across Australia, Eucharistic renewal will continue to flourish, and Eucharistic processions and pilgrimages will become a commonplace way for all to walk with Christ in their lives. <i>Scan the QR code to access Walking With Christ: A Companion for Eucharistic Renewal, a resource designed to accompany you in your spiritual preparation for the continuing journey with Christ.</i>	
Continuing	Catholic Chaplaincy at UOW UOW students and staff are warmly invited to become involved with the UOW Catholic Society. Join us for Mass and lunch, 12:30pm Thursdays during semester in the Building 11 Clubs Room. See @uowcathsoc on social media to find out more.	

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NEW	The Tribunal of the Catholic Church In 2015, Pope Francis wrote that “charity and mercy demand that the Church, like a good mother, be near her children who feel themselves estranged from her.” The Interdiocesan Tribunal of Sydney, which has an Office in the Diocese of Wollongong, is a service of the Church to assist with the pastoral care of Catholics and non-Catholics who are civilly divorced, and who are seeking to remarry or who want clarification of their standing in the Church. The Tribunal also assists remarried persons seeking to have their current marriage recognised in the Church, and remarried persons wishing to be baptised or received into the Catholic Church. Any divorced person, or a divorced and remarried person is welcome to contact the Wollongong Office of the Tribunal to obtain further information, or to have their status within the Church clarified. Brochures are available at the back of the church in the notice board area. The Wollongong Office of the Tribunal is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. You are welcome to contact the Tribunal on 42222409 or tribunal@dow.org.au or visit www.tribunal.dow.org.au	
Continuing	Want your community to grow? Try Faith Circles Faith Circles is a weekly resource to help individuals but mainly small groups to come together in Parishes. In doing so it assists in the development of faith and community, a strong desire expressed in our Diocesan feedback from the National Church Life Survey. The weekly Faith Circles resource is available for free to download. It is easy to use with simple questions and prayer points. It is available to download at www.dow.org.au/media-resources/faith-circles/ or have it sent to you each month via email subscription.	
Continuing	A Gift to the Church in your Will.... will help A gift to the Church in your will ... <i>will help!</i> The Church has been present at most of the important milestones in your life: your Baptism, your First Holy Communion, at times of great celebration and at times of great sadness. Its many ministries are far-reaching, life-giving and life-saving. By leaving a gift to the Church in your will, you will be leaving a legacy of faith to help ensure that the mission and pastoral outreach that has been important to you will continue, both for today's needs, and for those of our children, our grandchildren and beyond. For information about leaving a gift in your will to your local parish or a ministry of the Church, please visit dow.sh/legacy, call the diocesan representative on 4222 2446, or scan the QR code here ►  (Note to Parish Secretaries: To access this image click here)	

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Continuing	An invitation to join electronic parish planned giving from your Parish Finance Council An electronic regular gift provides many benefits. You will find it a secure, convenient and efficient way to regularly support your parish, while also reducing our administration costs. It will also help us to confidently forecast and plan, as we know that we can rely on your support. You can increase, decrease, discontinue Continuing or restart your monthly gift at any time. Please visit https://www.dow.org.au/giving2/parishgiving/ to learn of the four simple ways you can support our parish electronic	
Continuing	Cathedral Books & Gifts Wollongong Cathedral Books & Gifts shop has a wide range of gifts for Baptism, Communion, Confirmation, Missals, books, rosaries, medals, statues, plaques, cards for various occasions, holy cards etc. Operating hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10am – 2pm Entry via 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong. For any enquiries, please contact 4222 2484	
Continuing	Go Deeper in your Faith with popular & FREE Catholic Podcasts Catechism in a Year This year, Ascension Press will also again run the Catechism in a Year podcast which will slowly and prayerfully read through and break open the Catechism over 365 days. It's not too late to catch up, and the daily podcasts can be listened to at your own pace. It is available at www.ascensionpress.com/ciy Bible in a Year Ascension Press is running the global hit Catholic Bible in a Year Podcast featuring Fr Mike Schmitz. It is the world's leading religious podcast, now with over 1 billion downloads worldwide. A new episode is released every day, but you can listen entirely at your own pace! It is never too late to catch up or start your journey. Sign up to download your free reading plan at Ascension Press BIY.	